Development of coal blocks involves a gestation period of 3 to 7 years for reaching the production stage and another two to three years for reaching the optimal production capacity. As per the guidelines, coal production from a captive coal block should commence within 36 months (42 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of open cast mines and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of underground mine, from the date of allocation. If the coal block is not explored, additional two years are allowed for detailed exploration and three months for preparation of geological report. The allocatees of coal blocks, who have not started production so far, are in various stages of obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing mining plan, acquisition of land, procuring machinery and equipment etc. for both mining as well as end-use project. Majority of the coal blocks have been allotted after 2005.

Power from alternative sources

†*348. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has not been able to generate power from alternative sources, as per expectation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the share of alternative energy in total power generation and the details of the projects going on to promote generation of alternative energy?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The progress in power generation from renewable energy sources mainly wind, solar, small hydro and biomass has been quite satisfactory and as per expectation. Around 15,539 MW grid interactive power generation capacity has been installed from renewable energy sources throughout the country as on 31.10.2009. A capacity addition target of about 12,000 MW grid-interactive renewable power has been set for the 11th plan against which a capacity of around 5,282 MW has been set up during the plan period upto 31.10.2009 and it is likely that the target will be met during the remaining plan period of plus two years. Resource-wise details are given in Statement *(See* below).

The cumulative grid-interactive power generation installed capacity of around 15,539 MW set up as on 31.10.2009 corresponds to over 9 per cent of the total power generation installed capacity from all sources in the country.

Details of programmes/schemes of the Government which are going on to promote grid-interactive power generation from renewable energy sources are as under:

(i) Wind Power:- It aims at generation of competitively priced grid-interactive power from wind energy.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Tamil.

(ii) Bio-power: Two sets of programmes are being implemented with the aim to generate competitively priced power and/or heat from biomass, mainly agricultural, agro-industrial residues and plantations, and from urban & industrial wastes. These are:

- Biomass power/Cogeneration
- Urban & Industrial wastes to power.

(iii) Small Hydro Power: Aims to generate competitively priced Small hydro power (upto 25 MW station capacity).

(iv) Solar Power: Aims to generate competitively priced Solar Thermal and Solar Photovoltaic Power. A National Solar Mission has been approved recently to enable large-scale up-scaling of solar power generation.

The Government is facilitating the implementation of the above programmes for power generation from renewable energy sources, mainly with private investment. It is providing various fiscal and financial incentives for renewable power projects that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation and nil/concessional excise and customs duties. Under the Electricity Act 2003, it has been made obligatory upon State Electricity Regulatory Authorities to fix a minimum percentage for purchase of electricity from renewable sources taking into account local factors. Preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power is being given in most potential States following the provisions made under the National Electricity Policy 2005 and National Tariff Policy 2006. Normative guidelines by CERC for fixation of such preferential tariffs have also been issued recently.

Statement

Details of cumulative deployment of grid interactive and off-grid renewable power generation installed capacity as on 31.10.2009 in the country

S.No.	Grid-interactive renewable power projects	Cumulative Achievements (upto 31.10.2009)
1.	Wind Power	10891.00 MW
2.	Small Hydro Power	2519.88 MW
3.	Biomass Power (Agro-wastes/residues)	816.50 MW
4.	Bagasse Cogeneration	1241.00 MW
5.	Waste to Power	67.41 MW
6.	Solar Power	3.00 MW
	Total	15539 .79 MW

Termination of contract for Barh Power Project

*349. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: